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WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF DISTRIBUTION
COTTON AND FIBER DIVISION

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SAN FRANCISCO 3, CALIFORNIA

MAY 23, 1944.

REGIONAL OFFICE WEEKLY REPORT.

WEATHER CONDITIONS FROM ARIZONA WEST WERE NOT PARTICULARLY FAVORABLE FOR COTTON GROWING, DUE PRIMARILY TO COOL WEATHER AND RAINS. CONDITIONS IN THE EL PASO AREA, HOWEVER, WERE MORE FAVORABLE. IN THE BAY AREA, THE WEATHER HAS BEEN IDEAL SO FAR AS COMFORT IS CONCERNED. HOWEVER, PASTURES ARE BEGINNING TO DRY UP DUE TO A CONSIDERABLE SHORTAGE OF RAIN.

ALL INDIVIDUAL GIN AND GROUP REPORTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AND SENT TO THE FIELD OFFICES FOR MAILING. WORKS SHEETS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED, BUT AS WE ARE EXPECTING MR. BETTS HERE THE LATTER PART OF THE WEEK, THEY ARE BEING HELD OVER FOR A DISCUSSION WITH HIM.

MR. ROY DORR, WHO IS STATIONED AT LOS ANGELES INSPECTING COTTON INSULATION, HAS BEEN ILL THE PAST WEEK. INASMUCH AS PRACTICALLY NO INSULATED MATERIALS ARE BEING PROCESSED AT THE PRESENT TIME, IT HAS NOT BEEN NECESSARY TO DETAIL SOMEONE ELSE TO RUN THE TESTS.

ALL "LOOSE" HAS BEEN REPORTED TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION, TO BE DISPOSED OF AS SURPLUS.

MR. RALSTON, OF THE EXTENSION DEPARTMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, VISITED THIS OFFICE AND GAVE US HIS OPINION AS TO POSSIBLE CHANGES IN THE SMITH-DOXEY REGULATIONS FOR SUBSEQUENT YEARS.

QUOTATIONS FROM FIELD OFFICE WEEKLY REPORTS

BAKERSFIELD - FOR THE MOST PART WEATHER CONDITIONS HAVE BEEN UNFAVORABLE THIS WEEK. AT THE BEGINNING OF THE WEEK CLOUDY OVERCAST SKIES WITH OCCASIONAL LIGHT SHOWERS PREVAILED, AND NATURALLY ACCOMPANYING TEMPERATURES WERE MUCH TOO COOL FOR THE COTTON TO CONTINUE ITS NORMAL GROWTH. THE POTATO HARVESTING IS PROCEEDING AT A RAPID PACE WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF CARS BEING SHIPPED DAILY. A GRASSHOPPER PERIL WAS REVEALED DURING THE PAST TEN DAYS IN A FEW SECTIONS HERE IN KERN COUNTY. POISON IS BEING APPLIED IN THE AREAS AFFECTED, SO NO APPRECIABLE DAMAGE IS EXPECTED FROM THE PEST. AGAIN WE HAD A WEEK WHEN THERE WERE NO SAMPLES CLASSED, HOWEVER, WE HAVE TODAY RECEIVED APPROXIMATELY FIFTY SAMPLES FROM A FRESNO FIRM TO BE CLASSED UNDER THE U.S. COTTON STANDARDS ACT. SMITH-DOXEY APPLICATION FORMS WERE SENT TO FOUR COUNTY AGENTS WHO HAD REQUESTED THAT THEY BE FORWARDED TO THEM. MR. WILLIAM C. DIXON SPENT TUESDAY IN FRESNO, CALLING ON MEMBERS OF THE COTTON TRADE WITH REFERENCE TO MARKET NEWS WORK. MR. DIXON REPORTS THAT THE TRADE IS COMPLETELY OUT OF THE MARKET, AND UNLESS THE FUTURE MARKET ADVANCES CONSIDERABLY THERE WILL BE LITTLE OR NO ACTIVITY UNTIL THE NEW CROP BEGINS TO MOVE. THE BASIS REMAINS UNCHANGED TO SLIGHTLY LOWER. REPORTS INDICATE VERY LITTLE ACTIVITY IN ANY QUALITIES WITH ONLY A LIMITED AMOUNT OF BUSINESS BEING DONE. ALTHOUGH A FAIR DEMAND PREVAILS FOR GRADES MIDDLING AND STRICT LOW MIDDLING, 1-1/16 AND 1-3/32 STAPLES, COTTON MERCHANTS CONTACTED IN FRESNO REVEALED PRICES BEING OFFERED WERE NOT SUFFICIENT TO ATTRACT ANY INTEREST. NO BUSINESS IS REPORTED IN THE LOWER QUALITIES, AS MOST OF THIS COTTON HAS BEEN DISPOSED OF. A FEW INQUIRIES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM SOUTHEASTERN AND EASTERN MILLS FOR THE QUALITIES STRICT LOW MIDDLING AND ABOVE, 1-1/16 AND 1-3/32 STAPLES, BUT PRICES OFFERED HAVE BEEN UNATTRACTIVE TO MERCHANTS.....SMITH.

EL PASO - WE HAVE HAD ANOTHER WEEK OF VERY FAVORABLE WEATHER FOR COTTON. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, WE HAVE HAD A VERY IRREGULAR START, THE CROP BEING FROM TWO TO THREE WEEKS LATE. WITH SOME FARMERS PLANTING EARLY, HOPING TO GET AN EARLY START, SOME 15 OR 20% HAVE HAD TO PLANT OVER. NATURALLY THE FIELDS ARE IRREGULAR, SOME COTTON UP TO GOOD STANDS AND CHOPPING IN PROGRESS, OTHER COTTON JUST COMING UP AND A FEW STILL HAVING TO REPLANT. COTTON UP TO NORMAL STANDS BY MAY 20TH TO 25TH HAS PLENTY OF TIME UNDER NORMAL CONDITIONS, AND WE DO NOT WANT TO LEAVE THE IMPRESSION OF AN OVER-PESSIMISTIC CONDITION. NO CLASSIFICATION THIS WEEK. WE NOW HAVE THE SAMPLE ROOM PAINTED AND HAVE GIVEN IT A GOOD OVERHAULING AND CLEANING, AND WE NOW HAVE A MUCH IMPROVED SAMPLE ROOM. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY OF THIS WEEK HAVE BEEN OCCUPIED IN CONFERENCE WITH MR. BETTS OF WASHINGTON, GOING INTO DETAIL WITH GENERAL STATISTICAL WORK AND MARKET NEWS SERVICE FOR THE COMING SEASON. MR. BETTS, MR. BUTTERWORTH AND MR. MACKELL WILL LEAVE SUNDAY FOR PHOENIX, WHERE THEY WILL ATTEND A GENERAL CONFERENCE ON MARKET NEWS SERVICES AND STATISTICAL WORK FOR THE COMING SEASON. THEY WILL MEET IN MR. CRITTENDON'S OFFICE, AND MR. GOHMERT OF SAN

FRANCISCO AND MR. SMITH OF BAKERSFIELD WILL ALSO BE THERE. THIS MEETING IS VERY OPPORTUNE, AS THERE ARE SEVERAL MATTERS THAT NEED TO BE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL IN CONNECTION WITH THE MARKET NEWS WORK FOR THE COMING SEASON, WHICH CANNOT BE HANDLED AND IRONED OUT THROUGH ROUTINE CORRESPONDENCE. THE BASIS IS STILL UNCHANGED AS REPORTED IN OUR MARKET NEWS LETTER OF THE 17TH. NO 1943 EQUITIES MOVING, HOWEVER, THE 1942 EQUITIES ARE PRETTY WELL SOLD OUT. THE 1943 EQUITIES LOOK LIKE THEY ARE FROZEN TIGHT FOR THE TIME BEING. WE WERE SORRY TO HEAR OF THE LOSS BY FIRE OF THE MESILLA PARK COOP GIN, WHICH IS THE THIRD GIN IN THE EL PASO AREA LOST BY FIRE THIS SEASON.. NISBETT.

PHOENIX - THE COOLEST WEATHER ON RECORD FOR THIS TIME OF YEAR WAS EXPERIENCED THE FIRST OF THE WEEK. THE LAST FEW DAYS, HOWEVER, HAVE BEEN WARMER AND IT IS THOUGHT THAT WE WILL HAVE SOME GOOD GROWING WEATHER FROM NOW ON. THE COTTON THAT IS UP HAS MADE VERY POOR PROGRESS. SOME FIELDS ARE BEING CHOPPED WHILE OTHERS ARE JUST BEING PLANTED. CONSIDERABLE REPLANTING WAS NECESSARY ON ACCOUNT OF LAST WEEK'S RAIN. FARM LABOR SEEMS TO BE VERY SCARCE, AND WE UNDERSTAND THAT SOME OF THE FARMERS ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY GETTING COTTON CHOPPERS. SOME HAVE ASKED FOR GERMAN PRISONERS OF WAR FOR THIS WORK. MOST OF OUR TIME THE PAST WEEK WAS SPENT IN SHOWING THE CCC SXP SAMPLES. THE MAJORITY OF INQUIRIES HAVE BEEN FOR TWOS AND BETTER, IN 1-1/4 AND 1-7/16 INCH STAPLE. MR. ERB SPENT TWO DAYS THIS WEEK IN COMPANY WITH THE MARICOPA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT, CONTACTING GINNERS IN THIS COUNTY IN REGARD TO SIGNING UP FOR NEXT SEASON'S CLASSIFICATION AND MARKET NEWS SERVICE. APPLICATIONS HAVE NOW BEEN SENT TO ALL COUNTY AGENTS IN THE COTTON-GROWING REGIONS OF ARIZONA. THE COTTON MARKET CONTINUES DORMANT, AND UNLESS THE DEMAND INCREASES IT APPEARS THAT AT LEAST SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE 1943-44 CROP WILL REMAIN IN THE LOAN.....CRITTENDON.

NOTE: WE ARE JUST ADVISED THAT JOHN L. MCCOLLUM, FORMERLY ASSISTANT CHIEF OF THE OFFICE OF DISTRIBUTION, COTTON AND FIBER DIVISION AT DALLAS, TEXAS, HAS BEEN APPOINTED CHIEF, TO SUCCEED JAMES R. KENNEDY WHO IS COMING TO BAKERSFIELD WITH THE COTTON COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION. WE ARE GLAD TO WELCOME RUSSELL TO CALIFORNIA, AND ALSO WANT TO CONGRATULATE "MAC" ON HIS WELL-DESERVED PROMOTION. THE CHIEF OF THE WESTERN DIVISION WAS ASSOCIATED FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS WITH MCCOLLUM IN WASHINGTON, AND KNOWS THAT HE WILL MAKE GOOD IN HIS NEW RESPONSIBILITIES.

COTTON CLASSED, WESTERN REGION, THROUGH MAY 19, 1944.

	WEEK		SEASON					
	TOTAL	CROP	O. G.	FORM A	LOAN	FUTURES	OTHERS	TOTAL
BAKERSFIELD	NONE		327,108	3154			958	331,220
EL PASO	NONE		175,327	760			4065	180,152
PHOENIX	300		122,946	192	292		5300	128,730
TOTAL	300		625,381	4106	292		10323	640,102

WILLIAM B. LANHAM, CHIEF,
COTTON AND FIBER DIVISION
WESTERN REGION